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NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

COR - 0788

15 March 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR : Acting Chief, DFD

SUBJECT : Development Branch Activity Report, 7-11 March 1960

1. OXCART:

a. On 9-10 March, Messrs. Kiefer, [] visited Lockheed for the purpose of reviewing the A-12 [] situation. Details are to be covered in a separate memorandum.

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b. On 10 March, Mr. Parangosky visited [] for the purpose of reviewing latest cost data pertaining to FY 1960 and 1961 construction programs. [] reported that the cost estimates contained in OXC-0246-60 still generally apply. He, however, will submit, within a week, a revised estimate and diagram of a proposed base plan. []

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c. On 11 March, the DD/P approved Minneapolis-Honeywell as the supplier for the inertial navigation system, autopilot, stability augmentation and air data systems on the condition that M-H accept [] instead of the [] M-H agreed to accept []

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25X1

d. On 11 March, Dr. Scott and [] met with the DD/P, [] Messrs. Kiefer and Parangosky for the purpose of being brought up to date on technical developments in the Perkin-Elmer camera system.

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e. Impending major OXCART decisions:

(1) Should a back-up camera system be programmed? Possible (not complete) considerations:

- (a) the Eastman-Kodak proposal
- (b) Hycon proposal, and
- (c) the Kelly Johnson proposal to modify three B configurations.

2. CORONA:

a. Because of difficulty in finding the cause of malfunction in the AGENA for Flight #1053 (GND) this shot was moved back to 24 March, and Flight #1055 (with camera) was brought forward for firing on 18 March.

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b. Eastman Kodak will produce its first operational polyester based film on 20 March. With the success in [] testing of Ansco polyester on 10 March the decision was made to use Eastman polyester on Flight 1055 (approximately 4 April) on account of the probable greater reliability and better quality of its emulsion. However, this decision is still subject to solution of a static electricity problem encountered with this base.

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c. Eastman has requested the use of a CORONA camera for a week in Rochester. Their purpose is to study its design in relation to problems which will be encountered in modifying a SAMOS camera for back up purposes in any 1961 follow on program. No. 5 camera will be available for this purpose on 20 March. However, we will wait to see what happens to the camera on the 18 March shot before deciding to send #5 to Eastman.

d. Mr. Kiefer met with representatives of BMD on 10 March to review the readiness of the next flights from a technical standpoint.

3. ARGON:

No significant activity.

4.

5.

6.

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7. CEALICE:

Perkin-Elmer has been directed to investigate recent tracker malfunctions.

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8.

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